

**MCGREEVEY ADDS ESSEX COUNTY TO LIST OF ENDORSERS**

NEWARK—Last week, Jim McGreevey on added Essex County as one of his endorers in his candidacy for governor. Citing rising auto insurance rates, escalating property taxes and a state government that has turned its back on working families, the Essex County Democratic organization enthusiastically supported Jim McGreevey as the best candidate for governor.

"The residents of Essex County share the same concerns about auto insurance and property taxes as people throughout the state," stated McGreevey as he addressed a gathering of Democratic Party workers voicing their approval. "Within Essex County, the urban and suburban communities are united in wanting a governor who is willing to stand up to the insurance industry and who is willing to take responsibility for the impact state policies have on property taxes."

The Democratic Primary will be on June 6.

**ALTERNATIVE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RECEIVES \$200,000 FOR PROGRAMS**

BERGEN COUNTY—Gov. Christie Whitman highlights the need for prevention of domestic violence and treatment programs for victims and their families when she presented a \$200,000 check to Deborah Donnelly, director of ADV, the Alternative to Domestic Violence program in Bergen County.

"Preventing domestic violence is one of the most important things we can do for families in New Jersey. My administration has tightened protection to meet the needs of victims of domestic violence and partnered with communities and victims service organizations like the ADV program that are on the front lines helping battered spouses and their children," Gov. Whitman said.

Alternative to Domestic Violence ADV is a Bergen County domestic violence rehabilitation program that treats families affected by domestic violence.

**COUNCILWOMAN CRUMP AWARDS BOOK SCHOLARSHIPS TO TWO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS**

NEWARK—The Honorable Mildred Crump, Councilwoman at Large is announced the recipients of this year's book scholarships awards from the 3rd Annual Newark Women's Conference.

The first place winner, Aurora M. Fontainhas, is a senior at East Side High School. She was awarded \$250.00 to assist her at college of her choice. The second place winner is Brenda Godbolt, a senior at Central High School and was awarded \$150.

Both winners are exceptional students and are members of the National Honor Society. "These young ladies exemplify the qualities that demonstrate they will some day be greater assets to our community," said Councilwoman Crump.

This year's Councilwoman Crump was pleased with the overall success of this year's conference. During the two days, over 900 women of all ages had the opportunity to network, interact with their peers, gain knowledge on all forms of women's issues, and so much more. Melba Moore, Paradise and Dr. details of their own personal struggles and helped us to put our own agendas in perspective. It was truly a wonderful Conference and if you missed it, you missed a truly exciting experience," added Councilwoman Crump.

# Police officer quits amid furor

**By Daryle Lamont-Jenkins**

NEW BRUNSWICK—Hours before he was to testify before a disciplinary hearing regarding the fatal shooting of resident Carolyn "Sissy" Adams, Officer James Consalvo resigned from the New Brunswick Police Department, according to Mayor James Cahill at a City Hall news conference Monday.

The 11 departmental charges stating Consalvo acted improperly when he shot and killed Adams on Sept. 10 were subsequently dropped. According to Consalvo he shot Adams as the allegedly resisted arrest for solicitation. He was scheduled to testify before a closed hearing to answer charges of excessive force, improper use of a firearm, and an illegal search of Adams.

Outside City Hall Tuesday morning, a demonstration organized by the New Brunswick Coalition Against Police Brutality, originally planned to call for Consalvo's dismissal, became a "victory celebration" for its participants.

On November 13, a grand jury

cleared Consalvo, a five year veteran of the force, of any criminal wrong doing, but he was also officially suspended on that day. A 10-count complaint lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court in Newark by Jacqueline Young, Adams sister, citing the violation of civil rights of Adams. The lawsuit is still pending.

The shooting sparked tensions among the residents in the city for two months, which had seen during the fall a number of rallies. Last September, 300 persons marched in front of police headquarters in a rally organized by the New Brunswick Coalition Against Police Brutality, which also organized two other rallies within the following two months.

The organization had demanded the resignation of Consalvo and another officer Sgt. Kenneth Milroy. Milroy, a well-known officer nicknamed "Craterface" by his detractors, has drawn a lot of controversy among residents for him being as he himself termed, "a rough cop." Originally it had been rumored that Milroy, was the officer who killed Adams, but he was not.

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The New Brunswick Coalition Against Police Brutality stage a demonstration-turned "celebration" outside New Brunswick's City Hall March 25, the day Officer James Consalvo was to testify concerning the shooting death of Carolyn "Sissy" Adams. The departmental charges he faced were dropped when he resigned the night before.

## Newark Council President demands apology for remarks

The words of Larry Stephen, chief of the special prosecution unit of the U.S. Attorney's office, stings like a vicious underhanded jab, underscored by its target and unworthy of its office. Members of the Newark Municipal Council believe "They should tie a yellow ribbon around City Hall and designate it a crime scene," Stephen declared after Jackie Mattison. Advised Newark Mayor Sharpe James, was found guilty of corruption after a nine week trial.

"If a crime is committed then the full weight of the law should be brought to bear. I dare say that there is no one on the Council and, indeed, within these walls that would disagree with that. However, To characterize City Hall and the people who work here as being a part of some sort of illegal

enterprise is not only irresponsible, it is demeaning and malicious," said Donald Bradley, President of the Newark City Council.

"I like most of my Council colleagues, was born and raised in Newark. We reared our children in these neighborhoods and supported our families here. We have committed our lives to this city. The majority of the people who work in City Hall also live in Newark. They are hard working, honest. Diligent people who comport themselves with dignity and honor. They, too, have dedicated their careers to the democratic process. You would think that Mr. Stephen would know something about that. We did not warrant his spurious, contemptuous remarks nor do we abide by them. Newark deserves an apology. We in

City Hall demand an apology," President Bradley pronounced angrily.

In an interview with the Star Ledger, Council Member Donald Tucker acknowledged that it "is difficult for the citizens of Newark to see these things happening and still have faith and confidence in the government." But he bristles at the perception of guilt by association for those employed in City Hall. It is more than unfair, it is the antithesis of the process for which the U.S. Attorney's Office is supposed to be a champion, Tucker explained.

At no point has an official in City Hall hindered or failed to cooperate or assist with any investigation within the city of Newark. It is within that spirit of fairness and dedication to justice that the city should be regarded? Officials in Newark stated.

## Mayor James accepts Mattison resignation

**Appoints Delores Metz acting chief of staff**

NEWARK—Mayor Sharpe James announced last week that Jackie Mattison had submitted his resignation from municipal government. "I have accepted his resignation and directed John D'Auria, director of personnel to properly close Mr. Mattison's files on his 20 years of service to Newark's citizens," James said.

At the same time, James announced the appointment of Mrs. Delores Metz as acting chief of staff. Metz, a Newark businesswoman and homemaker, has been a mayor's aide since 1991. She joined municipal government in 1986 as a supervisor in the Division of Citizen Services.

The appointment of Mrs. Metz, who is a hardworking public servant and community activist strongly involved in promoting women and women's issues, ensures the smooth continuity of services to Newark citizens," the Mayor said. Metz has served as liaison to the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women and Senior Citizens Commission.

James called Friday's guilty verdict in the nine week trial involving Mattison and insurance broker, William Bradley "a personal" tragedy for the two men. This was a human failure, not an institutional failure," he said.

"However, to brand the 4,500 dedicated municipal employees, many of whom have worked for the City of Newark for 20, 30, 40 or more years, as similarly responsible is horrendous," said the Mayor.

"We all abhor crime, and we in municipal government will continue to root out individuals who violate their oaths of office," James maintained.

"This is the same government," contended James, "that improved Newark's bonding capacity, spearheaded a \$5 billion renaissance, created 20,000 new jobs, built over 5,000 units of new housing and removed the Newark Housing Authority from HUD's most troubled list. This is the government that coordinated the building of a new legal center and Blue Cross/Blue Shield's new headquarters, kept Seton Hall Law School in Newark and recruited, trained and hired more police to bring about a 15 percent reduction in crime. And this is the same government that will assist in the opening of a \$180 million New Jersey Performing Arts Center in October and continues to lead the nation in recycling and environmental programs.

"To accomplish these successes, most elected, appointed and Civil Service employees must be coming to work every day and doing their jobs earnestly and honestly. They do not deserve a blanket indictment because they are public servants," he said.

## Denzel Washington joins Newark youth to celebrate National Boys & Girls club week

NEWARK—As National boys & girls club week (April 6-12) approaches the Boys & Girls club of Newark joins Academy Award-winning actor Denzel Washington in promoting a great way for millions of adults to make a difference in the way for millions of adults to make a difference in the life of a child—a boys & Girls Club membership card.

Washington, national spokesman for Boys & Girls Club of America, virtually lived at the club in Mr. Vernon, N.Y. as a youngster. —They practically had to kick me out at night," he said.



Denzel Washington shows his card

We are fortunate to have someone like Denzel Washington speak out for the youth of America and more specifically Boys & Girls clubs nationwide," said Myles Varley, executive director of the Boys & Girls club of Newark (BGCN). "Denzel's story demonstrates the dramatic influence that a caring, concerned adult can exert in the life of a child.

For me it was Billy Thomas, my Boys & Girls Club director, who taught by example and challenged me to achieve my potential in life," said Washington. "I know that with out his guidance and direction I would not be where I am today."

National Boys & Girls Club Week is the traditional period each year when Clubs across the country celebrate their year-round mission of service to youth, particularly those who may have few other places to spend their free time when not at home or in school. "The Club is a safe haven for our members, a place to have fun, make friends and participate in character-building programs and activities," said Varley. "What makes the Club special is our staff members—our 'Billy

Watch" television series will be at the Central Ward Club to meet members, parents and the community and talk with them about many important health issues that particularly effect urban communities.

Washington believes that becoming involved with the Boys & Girls Club as a volunteer or a financial supporter (like Finn Caspersen, Robert Rudin, First/Union and Lyndon Brown) is a sound investment in the future of America. "We have a choice, we can either invest in the lives of our children today, or pay for the tragedy of their failure in the future," he said.

BGCN operates three clubs located at 1 Avon Avenue, 161 Littleton Ave. and 422 Broadway. Clubs are open Monday to Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thomas'—who really make our kids feel important and valued. They are the reason the kids keep coming back, day in and day out."

BGCN has planned three special events during Boys & Girls Club Week: (1) A kick-off prior to April 6th, The Ninth (9th) Annual Evening of the Stars, on April 2nd, will be held at the Hilton at Short Hills to honor Finn Caspersen, Chairman of Beneficial Management Corporation, Robert Rudin, Executive Director of Edward S. Gordon Company of New Jersey, our volunteer of the year Lyndon Brown and our local youth of the year Al-Malik Williams. (2) April 10-13, Tracey Austin, Owen Davidson, Corin Dibley, Cliff Drysdale, Zina Garrison Jackson, Luke Jensen, Murphy Jensen, Johan Kirk, Rod Laver, Titi Mayotte, Ili Nastase, JoAnne Russell and Virginia Wade will be competing in the FIRST/UNION Tennis Clinic to benefit BGCN. (3) On April 10th Greg Alan Williams, Star of the "Day

## Clinton appeals for racial harmony

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Clinton, asking the nation to join his prayers for a better Christian holiday, called on Americans this Easter weekend to reject racial hatred and remember that Christ died to redeem all people—black and white.

"In this season of renewal, we must renew our pledge to make America one nation under God," the president said Saturday in a radio address that centered around the attack last week on 13-year-old Leonard Clark. Three white teen-agers are accused of beating the black boy into unconsciousness.

Even as he denounced the crime as a "savagely, senseless assault driven by nothing but hate," Clinton looked ahead to both Easter and next month's

Passover holiday in asking the nation to pray for a better Christian holiday that hope can spring forth from darkest of times," Clinton said. "Those of us who are Christians celebrate a risen God who died a painful, very human death to redeem the souls of all humanity without regard to race or station."

In his radio broadcast, Clinton worried that black Americans would see in Clark's alleged attackers the faces of all white Americans. "The acts of a few people must never become an excuse for blanket condemnation," he warned.

Healing racial divisions is one issue on which the president speaks most passionately. He traces his concern about black-white relations back to his childhood days in Arkansas, when he watched his grandfather endure scorn from fellow whites for serving black people in his general store.

Racial violence, the president said, divides America as surely as the quieter racism of stereotypes and discrimination: "These acts may not harm the body but when a mother and her child go to the grocery store and are followed around by a suspicious clerk, it does violence to their souls."

In another nod to recent headlines, Clinton referred to the mass suicide of cult members outside San Diego and regretted that "some Americans feel isolated from all of the rest of us in other ways... with truly tragic consequences."

## Community Calendar

## APRIL 2

**FREEHOLD**—Smart Money Reorganization Meeting at the Meeting Room in the Hall of Records.

**FREEHOLD**—Mental Health Board's Professional Advisory Committee Meeting at the First Floor Conference Room, Human Services Building.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 3

**FREEHOLD**—Improvement Authority Workshop & Regular Meetings at the Freeholders Meeting Room, Hall of Records.

**FREEHOLD**—Employee Wellness Day at the EAP Program at the Police Academy Gymnasium.

**FREEHOLD**—Freeholders' Meeting Room, Hall of Records.

**NEWARK**—Satan Hall University School of Law sponsors Kids in Business Auction in which kids will auction their artwork, at the school. For more information, call 201-429-8380.

**NEWARK**—Sixth annual Book Sale in Centennial Hall of the Newark Public Library. For more information, call 201-733-7734.

**JERSEY CITY**—Mary Murphy of Project START at the Jersey City Medical Center will speak on date rape at Jersey City State College. For more information, call 201-200-3186.

**JERSEY CITY**—Course beginning, "Public Speaking Without Buffering" at Hudson County Community College. For more information, call 201-714-2107.

**WAYNE**—"Earthworks" an art form developed by American and European artists in the late 1960s, will be the subject of a lecture at William Paterson College. For more information, call 201-995-2654.

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD**—Blood Drive at South Plainfield Rescue Squad. For more information, call 908-756-6414.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 4

**NEWARK**—Sixth annual Book Sale in Centennial Hall of the Newark Public Library. For more information, call 201-733-7734.

## MONDAY, APRIL 5

**BLOOMFIELD**—Bloomfield College's Center for Adult Learning has launched a new course designed for classroom music teachers in elementary, middle

and high schools. At the Westminster Arts Center. For more information, call 201-748-9000, ext. 561.

**WEST ORANGE**—Conference, "STROKE: The Continuum of Care" at Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation. For more information, call 201-731-3900, ext. 2372.

**NEWARK**—Sixth annual Book Sale in Centennial Hall of the Newark Public Library. For more information, call 201-733-7734.

## MONDAY, APRIL 7

**BRIDGEWATER**—"A Taste of Somerset," featuring cuisine of more than 30 of Somerset County's best restaurants. At the People's Center. For more information, call 908-725-2299.

**EDISON**—Blood Drive at Wardlaw-Hartridge Upper School. For more information, call 908-756-6414.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 8

**WEEHAWKEN**—"Meet and Great Cruise for Business" on the Spirit of New Jersey, in Lincoln Harbor. For more information, call 201-242-6237.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

**EDISON**—JFK Medical Center Haven Hospice program will sponsor a Family Center Support Group. For more information, call 908-321-7769.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 10

**ERSEY CITY**—Course, "The Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse and Maltreatment" at Jersey City State College. For more information, call 201-200-3157.

**CRANFORD**—Seminar on "Total Quality Management" at Union County College. For more information, call 908-709-7501.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 12

**NORTH PLAINFIELD**—Plainfield Caring-and-Turn-Over's Annual Flea Market and Luncheon in Saenger-Halls. For more information, call 908-356-0477.

**NEWARK**—Health Awareness Program at Calvary Baptist Church. For more information, call 908-964-4556.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 17

**NEW YORK**—18th Annual Scientific Meeting at the New York University Medical Center. For more information, call 908-235-5052.

## Newark resident honored as "Youth of the year" at 100 Black Men of new Jersey awards dinner



Attending the First Annual Community Service Awards Dinner of the 100 Black Men of New Jersey are, from left, Theodore D. Wells, Jr., Esq., dinner co-chairman; Al Koeppe, PSE&I senior vice president and dinner co-chairman; Newark resident Brian Evans, who was named "Youth of the Year" by the organization; and William Wimberly, president, 100 Black Men of New Jersey, Inc.

## Fighting New Jersey's Number One Killer!



New Providence, NJ—American Heart Association board member and New Providence resident Dr. Willie Mae Coran (pictured, far right) joins with American Heart Association volunteer Cindy Flockton present a plaque to Dr. Greg Kaczorowski, senior director of membrane biochemistry and biophysics at Merck & Co., Inc., in recognition of Merck's long-standing commitment to cardiovascular research. Flockton's son, Jeffrey, helps dispel the myth that heart disease is only a disease of the elderly. Although only six years

old, Jeffrey has had two heart transplants and two strokes. Heart disease, New Jersey's and America's number one killer, annually claims the lives of twice as many Americans as accidents, cancer, AIDS, diabetes and suicides combined. For more information on heart disease and stroke, call your local American Heart Association, at 1-800-634-1AHA.

## YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

BY MISS ANNA

**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY.** You tend to be overly optimistic or overly negative. Start seeing your partners and cohorts as they really are, not only as you want to see them. Both friends and close associates are going to be particularly important to you for the next several months. Choose your companions carefully, for they will either help or hinder your dreams.

**ARIES:** (March 21-April 20)

You are in a very practical frame of mind and unusually sharp in all your money matters. In your can-do anything mood, no matter how busy, you will be more than able to take care of everything. Speak softly and avoid disagreements with a loved one.

**TAURUS:** (April 21-May 21)

Family is highlighted for now. Heart-to-heart talks with children will prove advantageous. The financial goals you've had in mind are going to be realized in the very near future. Strive for fairness in all your decision-making.

**GEMINI:** (May 22-June 21)

Any problems in family or home life will finally be resolved. Keep your cool in the workplace, co-workers may be very sensitive to your feelings. Remember, at a distance, which will stir things up at work for the next few weeks. Unreasonable demands may be made.

**CANCER:** (June 22-July 23)

You'll get the week in a dream world of your own. It may be best to take time alone and treat yourself better. A short trip may be the ticket to fun and adventure. Work runs smoothly for a change, but there are tensions in the home. Remember your mate.

**LEO:** (July 24-August 23)

Listen to a friend's advice regarding financial planning. Once you have your plan in order, take time to discuss it with your beneficiary. Others may accuse you of living with unrealistic expectations - don't let it bother you, your best ideas come to you this way.

**VIRGO:** (August 24-September 23)

This week will bring passion and intimacy with your love. Business and household projects are favored, and you'll be surprised at how much you get done. There may be a bonus for your recent efforts. Take time for laughter, and make plans to further your education.

**LIBRA:** (September 24-October 23)

The more you depend on your inner reserves, the stronger you are. Your actions inspire family members to strive for their best. There are some self-doubts you have been wrestling with which only you can work through. Self-improvement efforts will succeed.

**SCORPIO:** (October 24-November 22)

Spend time with close friends and have some fun. Both your friendships and love relationships are very fulfilling. Keep your cool; someone is trying to undermine your position with flattery or outright bribery. There is a lucrative job possibility in the future.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 23-December 21)

It's a pretty effortless and pleasurable week. You have the power to make changes for the better. Personal achievements and romance will be highlighted for the next few months. You need to resolve an old misunderstanding with an estranged friend.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22-January 20)

This week will start on a very upbeat note. Whenever you are, you are surrounded by luck and friendship. Unexpected money is most likely to come your way. Your work and family responsibilities are heavy, you have people relying on you from all sides, take things one at a time.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21-February 19)

There are many things that need your attention right now. Try to prioritize, and do the most important things first. Verbal clashes are unavoidable - both your kids and co-workers will challenge your authority. Check out any opportunities to increase your income.

**PISCES:** (February 20-March 20)

Spend some time with your mate and family. You are both assertive and charming. It feels good to succeed at work and know your family's happy too. The week will be full of heavy mental stimulation and many challenges. Innovative and unconventional

## Trenton public school gets on the superhighway



At left: Elementary school students, from left, Brittany Jones, Yashir Benitez, Carlos Peters and Joey Rivera, joined Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer, center, John P. Thurber, left, Thomas Edison State College vice president for Public Affairs, and Dr. Paul Sequiera, interim superintendent of schools for the city of Trenton, to announce plans to bring the Internet into the classroom. Trenton will become the first city in New Jersey and one of the first in the nation to have all its public schools and many community sites wired for the Internet during Trenton NetDay in April. The announcement was made recently at the project's Beta site, the Carroll Robb School on Tyler St. Sponsored by the Thomas Edison State College's John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy, the project is being conducted by volunteers on four consecutive Saturdays with equipment donated by the corporate community.

## Hughes named "Black Achiever"



New York, NY—WNBC's Hughes named "Black Achiever in Industry" by Harlem Ymca. Hughes, sales account executive for WNBC, has been recognized as a "Black Achiever in Industry" by the Harlem Ymca. Hughes is honored for his outstanding achievement as an African American professional in a Fortune 500 company. In addition to showcasing top African American Professionals in the tri-state area, the "Black Achievers Awards Dinner" generates funds to support new and existing youth programs at the newly renovated Jackie Robinson Youth Center, as well as providing an opportunity for corporations to create an outstanding presence in the Harlem community. He is a graduate of Glassboro State College, located in Glassboro, New Jersey, with a bachelor of arts degree in Radio/TV/Film. A native of Cliffwood, NJ, Hughes currently resides in Westbury, NY with his wife Renee.

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271 East Bedford Avenue

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180 Broadway

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16 Valley Plaza

## MILLBURN:

420 Main Avenue

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Highway 91 and Valley Plaza

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## FALWELL URGES SPONSORS TO BOYCOTT 'ELLEN'

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—The Rev. Jerry Falwell urged General Motors, Chrysler and Johnson & Johnson to withdraw their sponsorship of the episode of the sitcom "Ellen" when the lead character announces her homosexuality.

Falwell said he has already written letters to GM, Chrysler and Johnson & Johnson asking them to withdraw their commercials to protest the storyline.

He also asked audience members to write letters of protest to ABC, which airs the show, and Johnson, which produces the series. A message left for an ABC spokeswoman was not returned Tuesday.

"Stop spending your dollars to underwrite a program that Disney and ABC have decided to use to corrupt the views and values of our children," Falwell said. "All Christians need to make their voices heard."

## CENSUS DATA SHOWS MORE AMERICANS MARRYING OUTSIDE OF RACE

DETROIT (AP)—Interracial marriage has grown considerably, with military people more likely than others to marry outside their race, according to an analysis of Census data.

University of Michigan researchers found that 8 percent of black men between the ages of 25 and 34 in 1980 were married to someone of another race, compared with fewer than 2 percent in the 1940s and '50s. Among white men in the same category, about 4 percent were married to someone of another race, compared with about 1 percent in the '40s and '50s.

Military people had a high rate of interracial marriage, which researchers said may be a key reason for the overall increase, said Reynolds Farley, the lead researcher.

White men who served in the military were three times as likely to marry black women as white men who never served, the study said. White women who served were seven times more likely to marry outside their racial group as those who never served.

Some people say the results simply show greater tolerance of mixed couples since the years when many states outlawed interracial marriages.

Gender also appeared to be a factor in marrying someone of another race, Farley said. For example, among Asians, women have married outside their race at a much higher rate than men, and black men were more likely to marry a non-black woman. Farley also noted that there is a higher rate of interracial marriages in California and Hawaii than in areas of the South or Midwest.

## ACTRESS'S BROTHER AMONG GROUP SUICIDE VICTIMS

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actress Nichelle Nichols, who played Lt. Uhura on "Star Trek," said her younger brother, who died with 38 other passengers in Florida's Santa Fe, vanished for two decades before resurfacing recently.

"We hadn't heard from him in 20 years until several years ago, when my mother died," Miss Nichols said Friday on "Larry King Live." "He let us know he was well."

Thomas A. Nichols, 59, contacted her in 1994 and said his organization "intended to go public, and asked me what I thought would be the best way to let the world know what they were about," Miss Nichols said.

Even then, she said, her brother and several other people he was with were saying the arrival of a comet would be a momentous personal event.

"They talked about the great comet that would come someday," she said.

"There's a tragic irony they should choose Hale-Bopp, this wonderful comet, this wonderful celestial event once in our lifetimes, that it would be this event that would trigger their decision to leave their bodies, as they called it, to go on another plane," she said. But, she said, "He made his choices and we respect those choices."

# Jackson, family dismayed over boy bond

CHICAGO (AP)—Jesse Jackson and relatives of a 13-year-old black boy beaten to death are angry that the three white teenagers charged in the attack are free after posting a total of just \$35,000 in bond.

"Learning that these suspects ... were released from custody on such low bonds cheapens the price of hate crime," the civil-rights leader said in a statement.

Prosecutors had asked for bond of \$1 million each for the three, who are charged with attempted murder, aggravated battery and a hate crime. But Cook County Circuit Judge Walter Williams set bond Monday at \$100,000 each for Frank Caruso, 18, and Victor Jassa, 17, and \$150,000

for Michael Kwidzinski, 19. It is customary for defendants to post only 10 percent of their bond amount.

Police have said race appears to be the only motive for the attack Friday night on Lenard Clark near Comiskey Park on the city's South Side. Police also have said the suspects, using a racial epithet, "dragged to their friends that they had taken care" of the blacks in the neighborhood.

But lawyers for the suspects said Monday that their clients are innocent.

"All I know is that my client is pleading innocent, and he didn't do anything," said Caruso's attorney, Edward Genson.

Lenard remained unconscious and in serious condition today with head injuries at Cook County Hospital.

Tallulah Black, a aunt of the victim, said she was heartbroken by the suspects' quick release.

"Why give them their freedom while he's upstairs fighting for his life? When are we going to protect our babies from this?" she said.

Lenard's mother, Wanda McMurray, said all she can do for him is to bathe him, rub him down in oils and pray.

"I'm praying, letting him know mom is here," said Ms. McMurray, flanked by family members who hugged each other as they started to cry.

"If he recovers," she said, "he's not going to be the same child, riding his bike."

Authorities say the suspects pulled the child from his bicycle, slammed his head into a building and repeatedly kicked him.

City politicians, religious leaders, school officials and even schoolmates of the suspects denounced the beating and urged greater tolerance.

Officials at De La Salle Institute, where two of the suspects attend school and from which one graduated, held an assembly Monday to condemn the attack and to ask students to pray for Lenard.

"Even though the incident didn't happen here, we had to recognize that

the students came from here and say we don't condone that kind of racial hatred," said the Catholic school's president, Michael Quirk.

The school is the alma mater of Mayor Richard M. Daley, who called the attack a "vicious crime." The Catholic Church's Chicago Archdiocese also condemned the attack.

"This tragedy requires that the archdiocese redouble its efforts in our schools and parishes to confront racism," said Bishop Raymond E. Goedert, the archdiocese's administrator. He said he would form a task force on racism at the church's schools.

## With african girls, Chelsea offers some thoughts on America

By Sonya Ross  
Associated Press Writer

ARUSHA, Tanzania (AP)—Sitting in an airport lounge with a group of girls who Hillary Rodham Clinton knew it was time to let the young speak to the young.

She turned the proceedings over to daughter Chelsea, who seemed to feel a bond with these girls and offered some thoughts about life in America.

When one girl asked about the challenges facing young Americans, Chelsea, 17, articulated them with earnestness.

"We have a big problem with violence in our country, in all spectrums," Chelsea said. "We have a big problem with drugs. And we have a big problem with people not thinking they have a future. Young women and young men. We're very cynical. There's a lot of hopelessness."

Her mother, meanwhile, said Tuesday that the United States supports efforts to bring to justice those who carried out the genocidal slaughter of an estimated 500,000 people in Rwanda in 1994.

"The war in Rwanda was waged against the lives and dignity of women and children," Mrs. Clinton said. "The evidence suggests that rape and sexual assault were committed on a mass scale. Of this the world community must speak with one voice; such tactics will never be tolerated."

She said the United States will see to it that as many of these crimes as possible are prosecuted. The United States has earmarked \$12 million to support the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, created to punish perpetrators of the Rwandan slaughter.

Throughout her mother's two-week goodwill tour of Africa, Chelsea has been quiet, following closely behind the first lady through meetings, tours and cultural displays in country after country. It would test any teenager's patience.

Even during some of the most profound moments of this trip — such as when she joined Nelson Mandela in his former prison cell and found herself standing in his shadow — Chelsea has had little to say.

At the airport here, the girls from the Weru Weru secondary school nodded as if to say they, too, could relate to the problems in America that Chelsea spoke of.

How, one asked, is hopelessness being dealt with?

Parents and teachers are trying to help by setting standards, Chelsea began, and then she said:

"But with our problem of hopelessness and cynicism, that ultimately has to come from the young people themselves. That's something we have to work on collectively, as a group, to try to realize that we are the future, and we make of our future what we make of it."

"Ultimately we have to do it for ourselves, regardless of what we're given in the beginning."

It wasn't clear why Chelsea suddenly spoke up, although Mrs. Clinton gave a clue as she congratulated the girls for their achievement.

"She has also climbed mountains and been much more adventurous than her mother," Mrs. Clinton said. "So I was going to see if she has any questions, or if she has anything she wants to talk with you about. She is more your age, and understands what it took to run for your club."

Chelsea smiled.

"I was very impressed, especially considering the odds you faced," she said. "I know how sick some of you became."

The Clintons' only child has raised a good bit of curiosity in each of the countries she has visited over the past 10 days. She has been showered with gifts and encouraged to meet and chat with young people

from Senegal to Zimbabwe. Upon arriving in Arusha, Chelsea was handed a pot of red and yellow roses, while nearby a young man clutched a poster reading: "Karibu Mama Chelsea," which means "Welcome Chelsea's Mother" in Swahili.

For her part, Chelsea was curious about the girls who climbed Kilimanjaro on a six-day adventure. On the plane here, she had read a lengthy article about their conquest.

The girls told the 19,340-foot mountain towers over their school. They would look at it every day, wondering what was on top.

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## EDITORIAL

### What to do with \$6 million

Last week Mayor Mark Pary of Plainfield, held a public meeting at the Plainfield Library to discuss moving the City forward, by using \$6 million dollars available to the city through the sales of sewer capacity, to create an Endowment Trust Fund along with \$1.5 million available through the Urban Enterprise Zone Fund (UEZF).

The mayor is proposing residents to create a using the \$6 million to reinvest in Plainfield and use part of the money to stimulate economic growth. The plan he proposes is that residents consider three strategies:

1. Take \$5 million and establish an Endowment Fund. Use the interest from that to replace the \$1.5 million used to establish a reserve-emptiness project loan fund. Afterward that Fund is restored to \$6 million, the interest is transferred into the Redevelopment Project Loan Fund. The mayor wants the flexibility of using \$2 million from the \$5 million Endowment for publicly sponsored projects such as the State Rail Museum, a Cultural Arts Center, and a Youth Recreation Center.

2. Use \$1 million to create a Redevelopment Project Loan Fund to promote economic development through direct investments and use the interest to leverage other funds to stimulate business development.

3. Use Urban Enterprise Zone Project Fund to stimulate job growth and leverage other funds.

Specifically, from the Endowment Fund, he wants the flexibility to use \$2-\$3 million of the funds to leverage and create publicly sponsored projects such as:

- Convert the former Strand Theater into a performing arts center like New Brunswick and Rahway did with former theaters. Build a skating rink for youth and sell it back to an entrepreneur, similar to what Newark did in Branch Brook Park. Create a Skate Railroad Museum in the City.

The mayor says that he is looking at ways these funds can be leveraged to build up the economy of the City. While we have concerns about the viability of an Arts Center and another recreational center, given the 4 currently in the city, we think his ideas deserve serious consideration from the Council.

Part 2 Continued from last week

## Race Entertainment

By Jesse L. Jackson Jr.  
Congressman

If you are fairly well-educated; if you are employed full-time at basically a job of your choosing; if you are making a decent salary; if you and your family have a good health insurance plan; if you are living in a relatively safe and affordable housing; then the state of the union is pretty much what President Clinton said in his State of the Union address, then we as a nation have a decent shot at making racial progress.

But you may be one of the 15-20 million Americans who are unemployed, underemployed, working part-time when you want to be working full-time, have never had a job or gave up looking for one (so that you are not even counted among the unemployed) — or, with corporate and government downsizing, you are worried that you may soon be in one of those categories. In that economic climate, does anyone think the American people can really hear and really understand a conversation about race and racial reconciliation?

If you are one of the 40 million Americans without health insurance, another 40 million with inadequate health insurance, a worker who is being asked to pay more for less medical care, is anyone really convinced that racial reconciliation will be high on that person's agenda?

If you are not living in safe, sanitary and affordable housing, then you have a personal housing crisis. But much of the country lives that way, so America has a housing crisis. In the late 60s, a White House Conference on Housing called for 26 million new housing units over the next 10 years, with 6 million federally subsidized. That translated into 2.6 million each year, with 600,000 federally subsidized over ten years. The nation has never even approached that goal. Currently we are slightly over 1.5 million new housing starts, and the population has grown. So the crisis is worse today than it was three decades ago. Thus, we have a housing crisis. If America is ill-housed, how can we expect people to be sensitive about race and bring about racial reconciliation?

Our educational system is in cri-

sis. Not all of our children are being educated for work and life in the 21st century. Certainly one can say that the President made a huge effort in his State of the Union address to improve our educational system and make it more accessible to more people through the various initiatives, he spelled out in his speech in the form of tax breaks, tuition grants and new scholarships. For that he is to be commended.

While the effort was there, and I agree that a quality education is an entitlement for every American, one cannot be as sure about the effectiveness of these programs for the students who have the greatest need, those who are the least well off. While many will benefit from the President's plan, it appears that most of the money will go to students who plan to attend college anyway. It is like the Democrats for the leisure class' approach of giving tax relief to the middle class in the guise of education reform — a tinkering, topdown, "talented tenth and technocratic approach to problem-solving." The least likely to benefit are the students with the greatest need. Can we really move systematically toward solving our race problem when we cannot provide a quality education for all of America's children?

On the watch of a current Democratic President and a Republican Congress, the United States has become the most economically unequal industrialized democracy in the world in terms of wealth and income. While taxes have probably never been totally fair for the average American, tax unfairness was dramatically escalated under the Reagan tax program of 1981. Thus, we do not need a more benevolent and less extreme tax-cut plan than Ronald Reagan's. We need a reversal of that plan. We do not need tax cuts for the middle class as much as we need fair taxes for everybody. Inherent in fair taxes for all is a reduction in taxes for the middle class, the working class and the poor. How does one get racial justice in America in the context of economic injustice?

The reality is, you can't. The more likely outcome, and one which we are currently witnessing, is the dynamic of scapegoating people of color and the poor, and a meanness of spirit. The logical result of this current economic climate is the passage of Proposition 187 (immigrant bashing) in California and other xenophobic measures. The current racial climate engenders scapegoating by blaming the lack of jobs on affirmative action for women and people of color. In this current climate, it is the politically weakest and most vulnerable among us who are being economically assaulted in the name of welfare reform.

The reality is there can only be ancestral racial reconciliation under the present circumstances of economic inequality and insecurity.

Thus, to talk about race and racial reconciliation without acting to bring about a full employment peacetime economy, without a universal and comprehensive health care system; without adequate, safe and affordable housing for every American; without a quality education for every American child; and without economic fairness in wealth and income, is talk that can only lead to more hostility, frustration and racial animosity. To deal with the American people on the matter of race is such a matter as to play games with them. It is engaging in race entertainment.

Next week, Part 3 of *Race Entertainment, Economics and essential part of parity*

by Askyia Muhammad

If Nigeria appears to take two steps forward, Africa's most populous nation seems at the same time invariably, to take three steps back...at least in the eyes of political analysts in the West.

Case in point, Nigeria held state and local elections March 15. There was hardly any notice given the elections in the corporate-owned metropolitan news media.

An American delegation made up of Black publishers, editors, clergy members, and legal observers went there to observe, and said of the process "...while there were some glitches, it was very clear that the elections were free and fair," according to Dr. Joan Wallace, Chairman of the Americans for Democracy in Africa and former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. That story is being reported in the Black Press.

On the other hand, Nobel Literature Prize winner Wole Soyinka has

been charged—along with a dozen others, including a former Nigerian general—with treason. Mr. Soyinka is charged with plotting a series of bombings of military bases which have resulted in the deaths of seven Nigerians.

You guessed it. That story has gotten widespread White media attention.

Mr. Soyinka openly admits to an affiliation with the Nigerian opposition movement, outside the country. He went into exile several years ago, charging the military government with attempting to silence him, by killing him.

Even more so than the case of similarly heralded writer Ken Saro Wiwa, if Nigeria's current military government ever gets its hands on Mr. Soyinka, then no good can come from what happens next. Intellectuals like Mr. Soyinka are by definition "willful" personalities. Military governments by necessity are as stubborn as their most unyielding opponents.

But in the meantime, times just may be getting better in Nigeria. There

are reports that security has improved significantly at the Murtala Muhammed Airport in Lagos, for example. That place had been alleged to be a major trans-shipment point for drugs entering the U.S. Direct flights from Nigeria, were in fact canceled by the Clinton Administration, as a part of comprehensive sanctions against the West African government.

The economy and level of "civility" in the country may also be stabilizing, according to anecdotal accounts from Nigerian nationals in this country who have returned recently from visits. Some say that crime is down and that the atmosphere in the country is beginning to approach the peaceful law-abiding atmosphere experienced in the "crown jewel" of West Africa—Ghana.

And then there is the possibility that the current electoral process may yet turn over the government to a civil authority by October 1998 as announced two years ago by Gen Sani Abacha, military commander and head of state. Non-partisan local elections have been held, now state

and local partisan elections have taken place, and more than 24 million people are said to have voted each time.

Maybe just maybe, progress is being made. Five national political parties have been formed, crossing the divisions caused by 250 ethnic groups speaking 400 languages. A unique system of rotating top offices is proposed for the six regions of the country. One year the Presidential candidates for the five-year term all must be from one region, the Prime Minister candidates all from another, the House Speaker all from another, and so forth. That system is unique to Nigeria. It is not copied from either the American or the British models.

"We talked to people on the streets, people at the polls, we saw ladies holding babies as they stood there, waiting to vote," Dr. Wallace told reporters at the National Press Club recently. "The feeling you get all over the place is that people are really excited about walking the road to democracy."

## Parents Need A TV Rating System That Makes Sense

by Marian Wright Eldelman

What kind of TV shows do your children look at? Do you worry if their favorite shows contain violence, sex, or inappropriate language? If you're a parent, you know the answer. Children are like most children, they spend an average of four hours a day in front of the tube. One recent study found that children are bombarded with more than 2,000 television messages a day. And Black children watch more TV than other children. Two-thirds of Black fourth-graders watch four or more hours of TV a day, compared with one-third of White fourth-graders and a half of Hispanic fourth-graders. On average, a Black household watches 72 hours of TV per week, 49 percent more than other households. With hundreds of channels to choose from, it's hard to know what help to make good choices about what their children should and shouldn't watch. And parents need to stop using TV as a baby-sitter.

Earlier this year, the Implementation Group for TV Ratings, headed by Motion Picture Association of America President Jack Valenti, introduced a rating system based on age, just like the movie system, that consists of six levels of ratings. The ratings provide no information for parents about the content of television programs—no hints whether a show has a lot of violence, or sexual content, or both. Under the industry's rating system, V-rated programs suitable for children 2 to 6 years old, Y7 programs are for children 7 and older, G programs are suitable for all ages, PG suggests parental guidance is suggested for children under 14, and P programs are for mature audiences only.

I agree with the dozens of advocates of Congress, and parent, health, religious, and education groups across the country that parents would be better off with a rating system that describes content by using symbols such as "TV" for violence, "L" for

language, and "S" for sex. A similar system has been used by Home Box Office and other premium cable television channels for the past decade, and we ought to have it on every channel.

It is important to know what exactly is in the shows children are planning to watch," says psychologist Dale Kunkel, a leading researcher on the media's effect on children. "Research has shown that children learn behaviors by watching others, and TV presents a huge range of behaviors to learn from, including violence."

Violence in our communities and in our nation is caused by a combination of factors, including easy availability of guns, poverty, and violence in the home. But TV violence incites children's risk of becoming violent, overly fearful, or numb to victims' suffering.

Parents say they want all the help they can get. A recent poll sponsored by the PTA found that four out of five parents preferred a rating of five

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tem based on content and using letters to warn parents, rather than coarse language and sexual content appear in programs, violence than a rating system based only on age.

Of course, no rating system can replace parental responsibility. In addition to being careful about the messages we allow into our homes, we should limit the amount of television our children watch. We need to read more to our children, to encourage them to read on their own, and to spend more time sharing our proud history and culture with them. And sometimes we need to watch television with our children. Television can be educational as well as entertaining, and we need to seek out and support positive programs.

You have until April 8, 1997, to urge the FCC to approve a rating system that provides necessary information about the programs your children may watch. Make your opinion heard by calling the FCC toll-free at 1-888-CALL-FCC, or by sending an e-mail to [vhcp@fcc.gov](mailto:vhcp@fcc.gov).

## his way for Black Empowerment

Criminal Justice Policy: A Criminal Manipulation

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

According to a report issued by the United States Department of Justice early this year, one in every 163 residents of this country is in jail. No other country in the world has such a large proportion of its people. Much of the stupendous growth in the prison population has occurred over the past decade or so: the country in the world that has increased by 119%. A Department of Justice report released this month predicts that if 1991 incarceration rates were to remain constant, approximately 1 out of every 100 U.S. residents would spend some time in a state or federal prison during his or her lifetime.

A reasonable person viewing these statistics might draw the conclusion that The United States is in the grip of a violent crime wave. Such an assumption would be wrong, however. The reality is that the crime rates have been fairly stable, and some categories of violent crime, like homicide are decreasing. No, the vast majority of new offenders entering the prison system since 1980—84% in fact—were serving time for non-violent crimes, mostly drug and property offenses. These are the people who have been swept by the "get tough on crime" political hysteria that has fueled the most rapid prison expansion program in the history of the Western world and has been used to create one of the most monumental political manipulations of social policy.

According to Stephen R. Donziger, president of the national Criminal Justice Commission from 1994 to 1996, this prison-building mania is a scam, a classic example of the old "bait and switch" sales technique. Legislators playing to citizens' fear of crime pass laws to make prison terms more likely longer and harsher all the time of getting violent offenders off the street. But the overwhelming percentage of people put away under these laws—enormous cost to the taxpayer—are non-violent offenders. That is not what taxpayers bargained for.

Last week I interviewed Mr.

Donziger on my weekly television show. I asked him to speak about his book, "The Real War on Crime," which summarizes the findings of the National Criminal Justice Commission. The National Criminal Justice Commission was a private, non-governmental organization of 34 citizen leaders, not only police chiefs, law enforcement and law also doctors, educators, and business group across the country that volunteered their time for two years to discover what was wrong with our criminal justice system and what could be done to fix it.

The Commission's lead recommendation is for states to adopt a three-year moratorium on new prison construction until an accurate assessment of prison needs can be completed. In connection with this, the Commission recommends that some prison sanctions be replaced with alternative programs that are less expensive and more effective at reducing crime.

Mr. Donziger points out that the "war on crime" is a big business, and the industry it has spawned in "eerily similar to the old military-industrial complex." This new "prison-industrial complex" derives enormous profit by capitalizing on public fear of a new, post-Cold War enemy: the "so-called criminal element." The expansion of the prison system, while unnecessary to preserve public safety, is crucial to the continued profitability of the prison industry, which involves some of the largest investment houses on Wall Street. Put in the starkest possible terms, this industry needs a basic raw material—prisoners—and the industry's lobbyists will do what needs to be done to make sure the criminal justice system produces an adequate and expanding supply.

Mr. Donziger points out that it is people of color who are bearing the brunt of our failed criminal justice policies and the prison build-up. Half of all new prison admissions are Black and Latino. The so-called "War on Drugs" has been catastrophic for the Black community. While Blacks and whites use illegal drugs equally, at the height of the "War" in 1989, arrest rates for Blacks were five times higher than for whites. Mr. Donziger speculated that if the police had concentrated on raiding elite fraternity parties instead of

poor communities, the ferocity of this particular form of crime fighting would have been swiftly curtailed.

I asked Mr. Donziger whether the Commission report will be perceived ideologically, as "just another liberal take" on the issue of crime. His answer did not surprise me: "We don't think it breaks down along liberal and conservative terms. It's not liberal versus conservative. It's the taxpayer versus the government."

Almost as much money is spent

on crime control as is spent on national defense. But, as the National Criminal Justice Commission's report points out, the war on crime is a war against our own people.

We're going to have to challenge that bipartisan policy, and with it we're going to have to challenge the policy-making process that allows—indeed encourages—the adoption of approaches that are deceptive, politically-motivated and harmful to the American people.

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# UNITED WAY OF ESSEX AND WEST HUDSON CELEBRATES THE POWER OF WOMEN

ORANGE—The United Way of Essex and West Hudson (UWE&WH) held their annual meeting on March 18 at St. Matthew's AME Church, and this year they focused on their work in women's issues and concerns. Serving as keynote speaker this year was Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Tenured Professor and Director of the Center for Strategic Urban Community Leadership at Rutgers University in Camden.

Dr. Clement Alexander Price, a history professor at Rutgers, also presented the William H. Ashby Award to Sister Mary W. Dwyer, who was being recognized for her years of community service. Dwyer was one of the founders of St. Columbia School and St. Columbia Club.

UWE&WH supports and advocates for critical health and human care delivery for women in the community. According to the organization, many women struggling with a crisis such as domestic violence, unemployment, substance abuse, and homelessness, and who lack basic survival skills for self-sufficiency have found support and resources in the United Way system for caring. Last year, more than half of the organization's funded initiatives were targeted to women's related issues, the highest being in the area of family breakdown and empowerment, which was at 11%.

"Addressing women's issues is one of United Way's priorities which is envisioned in its mission as social investor and community builder through the ties that bind us," says United Way President and CEO Maria Vizzarondo-DeSoto.

## ABOVE & BEYOND TAE KWON DO CENTER QUALIFIES 14 FOR JUNIOR NATIONALS

ELIZABETH—Sunday, March 23, Dunn Sports Center in Elizabeth hosted the 17th annual New Jersey State Tae Kwon Do Championships where over 800 competitors vied for placement in the Junior Tae Kwon Do Olympics held in Louisville, Kentucky in July. Plainfield's Above & Beyond Tae Kwon Do Center at 1304 South Ave. was represented by 14 junior competitors, all of whom qualified for the competition in Kentucky. The competition was based on two skills, forms or Poomsae and sparring or Gyroogi, and the top three places in each skill, belt level age group qualified. The Kwon Do is set to be a medal sport in the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

The qualifying students from Above & Beyond, training under the auspices of Master Michael Gilliam, Sergeant on the Plainfield Police Force: Alexandra Gaynor, 11, Brandon Gaynor, 8, Rajive Ghant, 13, Jonathan Koesnick, 6, Rumi Bentley, 6, Matthew Shaffer, 7, Andrew Shaffer, 9, Lawrence Chan, 9, Tiffany Borom, 15, Derek Jones, 7, Robert Belfon, 18, Brittany Frazer, 7, Joey Quintano, 10 and Jeff Condale, 16. In addition to the Junior Competitors Above & Beyond also qualified two adults for the National Tae Kwon Do Championships, Israel Nava head instructor at the school and Jason Lowrey, student. Last year's Junior Olympics was hosted in Orlando, Florida and Above & Beyond in it's first year, brought home two Gold Medals among 6 competitors. Good luck to the athletes of Above & Beyond.

# Outspoken Police Officer DeLacy Davis physically threatened

By Deryle Lamont Jenkins

EAST ORANGE—A black Police Officer well known in the community for his fights against corruption and police brutality filed charges against a East Orange police detective, who is also black, that made threats against him.

Officer DeLacy Davis, president of the Black Officers Association and founder of Black Cops Against Police Brutality (B-CAP), filed the charges after the March 6 incident in which the detective, whose name was not disclosed, had to be physically restrained several times as he threatened Davis, stating, "I'll kick you!" —a—I had better not catch you in the street," according to a release on the matter.

On March 13, the investigation of those threats were completed and submitted to Chief Harry Hamman. The report concluded that Davis "acted properly and with great restraint." There has been, however, no action taken against the detective. Davis was ordered by Chief Hamman to attend a session of "Conflict Resolution" with the detective, but nothing has been resolved.

The fact that the detective has not been disciplined does not sit well with Officer Davis. A ten-year veteran of the force, Davis has been a major force in fighting police brutality. Founding B-CAP in 1991 to combat the high degree of corruption he has seen by breaking the "blue code of silence." Among the points he has made in the past was that the biggest problem in the community where brutality is connected is with black police officers, noting what white

police officers would not engage in such behavior if black officers weren't as well. According to Davis, "What good is having black police officers in leadership if he thinks we're all blue?" He has organized rallies, one in which his group demanded and took back an award from their police chief they felt he was not accountable to after receiving it, and recently one that brought 100 people to hear a panel of parents of children brutalized by the police, police officers, attorneys, and clergy.

He has been had pressure applied to him and threatened with death, often by fellow black police officers. This latest incident, he says, is the second within a year, and it makes him even more afraid for his life.

"It sends a signal that you can break the law as long as you break it

with DeLacy Davis," says Davis, who has canceled all his speaking engagements for the near future and is beefing up his security. "If you don't believe what that officer did is against the law, you try and do it to another cop and see what happens."

Davis also points out his treatment is illustrative of how the police are with the community. "If I'm not safe as a police officer, how safe can a community be, and how much justice is this?" Davis said.

Davis says he will continue to fight and speak out, and that this latest incident simply strengthens his resolve. "This is not about all police officers, and never has been," he clarified. "This is just about the brutal ones, the ones terrorizing our communities"



DeLacy Davis

# Warwick school helps students toward brighter future

by Sonya Kimble-Ellis

On a brisk Monday morning, students, council representatives and members of Dionne Warwick's family gathered inside the auditorium of East Orange's Lincoln Elementary School, to honor her achievements and to rename the school "The Dionne Warwick Institute of Economics and Entrepreneurship."

"I've received other awards for my achievements," she said, "but none as wonderful as this. I have always believed that there was nothing that I couldn't do. And as a result, here we are today."

The Grammy-award winning music legend, who is an alumnus of the school, received plaques, citations, an original portrait and lots of warm wishes.

John Howard, Jr., Superintendent of schools, explained, "The theme of this school centers around aspects of business. We wanted to rename Lincoln Elementary after someone who looked like ourselves and who represented what we're about."

That sentiment was echoed by Councilman Donald Payne, who said, "Dionne has never forgotten her roots. She always comes back to the cities of Newark and East Orange. She works with AIDS patients and with children."

A recent addition to her civic contributions is a book deal she has acquired. Dionne plans to commission historians and writers to develop a text book of African-American history that will be required reading.

Tears flowed during the renaming ceremony, as Ms. Warwick was touched by the outpouring of words and presentations. Fourth and fifth graders serenaded Ms. Warwick with their own rendition of her hit songs, changing one to "Do You Know The Way To Dionne Warwick's Institute of Economics and Entrepreneurship?"

Ms. Warwick, who currently resides in Brazil, encouraged the students in attendance to study hard and follow their dreams. "Economics and entrepreneurship will be important elements in your future," she said. "See what you learn now to help you become tomorrow's leaders."



Dionne Warwick (far right) enjoys the warm reception she received at the renaming of Lincoln Elementary

## Spirit of brotherhood lives at Essex County courthouse



Judge Irvin B. Booker, above center, organized celebration. The Honorable Betty Lester gives remarks

By Tina Matos

NEWARK—The air was filled with love and joy when, on Wednesday, February 26, 1997, employees of the Essex County Courthouse gathered to celebrate unity during the "Working for Justice" Black Heritage Tribute at the Essex County College Jury March Theater.

"This is love!" exclaimed the Honorable Irvin B. Booker, J.S.C., who is the heart and soul behind the Spirit of Brotherhood group which organized the celebration. Judge Booker explained that although the program was in celebration of Black History Month, it was also a celebration of brotherhood.

A brilliant example of brotherhood, of Essex County Court Choir, was introduced to the public for the very first time as part of the program. The choir, a multicultural, intergenerational group of employees from the various levels of the Essex County court system, sparked the celebration with the Black National Anthem.

The Honorable Alvin Weiss, Assignment Judge, addressed the interracial audience of Judges, court personnel, members of the bar, elected officials, students of all ages, and senior citizens. Judge Weiss first commented on the choir and how happy he was to see employees of the court system singing together. He then spoke

about his concept of justice, explaining that justice is just treatment and equal opportunity for everyone regardless of gender, race or age.

The Honorable Betty Lester, Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division, also commented on the choir noting that "Together they made a beautiful voice." Judge Lester then relied on the preamble of the United States Constitution as she spoke about the program's theme. She explained that the words, "We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union..." were the most profound definition of justice.

The program continued with a soloist, a choir, poetry readings and both the South of Integrity and the Beth Israel Hospital Gospel Choir singing songs of praise. The audience of over 500 filled the theater to capacity, including some people standing against the back and side walls and sitting in the aisles.

Benedictions from both a Catholic priest and a Baptist minister concluded the program and Judge Booker challenged the audience to go out and spread the feelings of love and pride that they'd been filled with. "The people on the stage are not the real reason we are here," the Judge explained, "but you the audience, the children in the schools, the poor and women, are the reason. This is not an end. This is a beginning to improving the quality of life for all people. If the human race is to survive, then Black love must be shared."

# ATTENTION

residents of  
Monmouth County



THE MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS HAS CREATED A FAIR HOUSING OFFICE AND APPOINTED A FAIR HOUSING BOARD

The Monmouth County Fair Housing Board has been established by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to provide policy and guidance on compliance with State and Federal fair housing laws and regulations to protect the rights of all Monmouth County residents. The Fair Housing Office will provide the following services:

1. Coordination of a county-wide approach to ensure fair housing for residents.
2. Establishment of an intake and screening procedure for discrimination complaints. Services will include assistance and counseling on procedures for filing a complaint, help in completing the complaint form, and review and verification process.
3. Provide general information and assistance on housing problems, and when necessary refer clients to other agencies that are funded and staffed to handle a specific housing problem, including referral to the New Jersey Department of Civil Rights.
4. Education, training and technical assistance to individuals, groups, agencies and/or organizations.
5. Acquire and coordinate assistance of New Jersey Division of Civil Rights, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for verification of discrimination practices and negotiating settlement for fair housing problems.

The office will provide service and assistance to the general public however, we have targeted the following groups as our highest priority:

MINORITIES, HANDICAPPED, HOMELESS, SENIOR CITIZENS, FAIR HOUSING GROUPS, CONCERNED HOME/APARTMENT LEASE GROUPS, HOMEBUILDERS, REALTORS, LENDING INSTITUTIONS, AND MUNICIPALITIES

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
HALL OF RECORDS ANNEX  
EAST MAIN STREET  
P.O. BOX 1255  
FREEHOLD, N.J. 07728-1255  
(908) 431-7490

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING

## Face It.

Someone You Know Has AIDS

In our country, 1 of every 3 people with AIDS is African American. We can stop this disease from claiming more lives by calling attention to the African American HIV/AIDS Program. A program designed by African Americans, for African Americans, that can reach us how to protect ourselves, our families, and our communities.

"The difference can begin with you."

*Alvin Williams*  
Executive Director

Alvin Williams, Executive Director

Alvin Williams, Executive Director

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# 1996 Newsmaker honorees salute Black Press for its support

By the NNPA Communications Department

Congresswoman Maxine Waters comedian Dick Gregory and talk show host Joe Madison saluted the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) for its support after receiving the organization's 1996 Newsmakers of the Year award in a recent gala dinner in Washington D.C.

The three were selected by NNPA's 200-plus member publishers for their "courage and commitment in exposing the horrors of the CIA/Contra/crack cocaine scandal," said NNPA President Dorothy Leavell. "We must honor those who lift us up, on the road to freedom. These three people had truly led with the torch."

In accepting her award Rep. Waters who has pushed for legislative hearings as well as federal investigations into the matter said she had become involved with the CIA/crack issue because "we are sick and tired of having people play with us."

"I wanna thank you for carrying the story," said Rep. Waters whose Los Angeles district has been severely affected by the crack epidemic.

Co-awardee Mr. Gregory who has been on a fast for over four months to force the government to declassify material relating to the CIA's involvement in the deadly proliferation of crack in urban America was also grateful for the role the Black Press has

played in keeping the issue in the public eye.

"What a beautiful feeling to be among peers, to be validated by your peers," he said. "We have come here to tell you thanks... God made you the keeper of the flame." Mr. Gregory told audience members.

Mr. Gregory also announced that protesters would again be targeting the CIA headquarters in a Good Friday demonstration. He and others were arrested outside the Langley VA facility last year while attempting to deliver a copy of articles from the California-based San Jose Mercury News. According to the newspaper, CIA-backed operatives pumped \$1 billion worth of crack cocaine into Black neighborhoods in Watts Compton and South Central Los Angeles during the 1980s. The profits from the sales were used to

buy arms for Nicaraguan Contra rebels in the investigative articles alleged.

In addition Mr. Gregory described a long-term plan which would include the commercial boycott of Thanksgiving and Christmas if documents relating to the CIA's role in the matter are not released by July 4.

Mr. Madison who has used his Washington D.C.-based talk show to publicize the issue encouraged the Black Press to "Stay on the story and editorialize about the issue... We have to rattle these cages," he said.

The second annual Newsmaker of the Year Dinner attracted some of the nation's top officials including Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX); Rep. Donna M. Christian (D-Virgin Islands); Washington D.C. Mayor Marion Barry; Dr. Henry J. Lyons president of the 8.5 million member National Black

ist Convention USA Inc.; Patrick Ayendi from the Nigerian Embassy, Washington D.C. Council members Sandy Allen (D-Ward 8) and Hilda Mason (S-Al-burge); D.C. Shadow Representative Sabrina Sojourner; D.C. Shadow Senator Paul Strauss; C. Delores Tucker national chair of the National Political Congress of Black Women and Archbishop George Stallings head of The African-American Catholic Congregation.

NNPA President Dorothy Leavell reminded attendees that the Black Press is just as relevant today as when John Russwurm and Sam Cornish established the nation's first African-American newspaper The Freedom's Journal in 1827. "There is still a need for the Black Press in America. We've have got the power and we've got to use it," she said.



NNPA President Dorothy R. Leavell with the Association's 1996 Newsmakers of the Year: from left, Joe Madison, Rep. Maxine Waters, Dick Gregory. At right is Washington informant Publisher Denise Rolark-Barnes chair of Black Press Week. Photo by Dazine Kent

## Broncos criticized for charitable contributions

DENVER (AP) — Responding to criticism of their charitable contributions, Denver Broncos officials said they donate money to organizations that benefit the community, regardless of race.

A donation list shows the Broncos gave \$2.16 million to charities in 1996, with about \$100,000 going to local organizations serving predominantly black communities.

"We feel very strongly that, while in certain areas it may impact one minority over another, that across the

board it is making a positive impact within the community as a whole," said Broncos vice president David Waas. "And really that's what it's all about."

Alvertis Simmons, head of Denver's Million Man March efforts, said the Broncos should be doing more to help black communities, and he has urged voters to reject a proposed sales tax increase to build a new stadium for team owner Pat Bowlen.

"They have been in this town 32

years and have yet to do right by our community," Simmons said. "Bowlen's asking blacks to pay for something that we have not and will not benefit from."

So far this year, the Broncos have donated \$20,000 to the Martin Luther King Scholarship fund and \$10,000 to the Northeast Women's Center, which primarily serves African American women, Waas said.

The other groups on the 1997 list include the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Northern Colorado, the Den-

ver Inner City Parish, and the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Denver.

Those groups serve a wide range of ethnic groups, but the Boys and Girls Club clientele is 62 percent Hispanic, said club spokesman Brad Bohlander. Of the Broncos' 1996 charitable contributions, Hispanic groups received \$400,000, or 18 percent of the \$2.16 million. Anglo organizations received \$1.6 million, or 74 percent of the money.

In the Denver-metro area, 5.7 percent of the population is black, 13

percent Hispanic and 78.4 percent Anglo.

John Bailey, executive director of 100 Black Men of Denver, said the Broncos should not be singled out, because lack of contributions to black organizations is a problem throughout corporate Denver.

"All of them need black faces that are credible and that folks can relate to," Bailey said. "So that when they have problems, those blacks can help them across the community, the mayor's office, or city council."

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Depending on which one you like, either is a smart choice. With a Fleet Home Equity Line, you have the flexibility of using your money however you want. And you only pay interest on what you use, which is usually tax deductible.\* With a Fleet Home Equity Loan, you have a guaranteed fixed rate and the predictability of knowing what your monthly payment will be for the life of the loan. You choose the amount you borrow and

the term of the loan. Financial flexibility. Financial certainty. It's up to you. Stop by the Fleet branch near you or call 1-800-628-9378.

HOME  
EQUITY  
LOANS

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\*Consult your tax advisor concerning the deductibility of interest and charges on your line. Fleet is a registered mark of Fleet Financial Group, Inc. Equal Housing Lender.



# Billboard

**APRIL 2, APRIL 16**  
WAYNE—An International Foreign Film Festival featuring film showings and a workshop will be held at William Paterson College. Admission free. For more information, call (201) 955-7157.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 3**  
UPPERMONTCLAIR—Musical, "Pippin" at Montclair State University's Studio Theatre. For more information, call 201-655-5112.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**—The contemporary music ensemble Essential Music performs the music of John Cage, Henry Cowell, and others in the Nicholas Music Center, Douglass College. For information, call 908-932-7511.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 4**  
UPPERMONTCLAIR—Musical, "Pippin" at Montclair State University's Studio Theatre. For more information, call 201-655-5112.

**EAST RUTHERFORD**—First Annual Big Brothers and Sisters Hockey Night with the Devils. For more information, call 201-267-4800.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**—Rutgers University Choir and Rutgers Glee Club are joined in concert by three New Jersey high school choruses in the Nicholas Music Center, Douglass College. For information, call 908-932-7511.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5**  
UPPERMONTCLAIR—Musical, "Pippin" at Montclair State University's Studio Theatre. For more information, call 201-655-5112.

**NEW PROVIDENCE**—Annual 1/2 off Thrift Clothing and Flea Market Sale sponsored by SHARING, a volunteer non-profit organization for handicapped. At the United Methodist Church in the Nicholas Music Center, Douglass College. For more information, call 908-454-7790.

**PATERSON**—Writers Ismael Reed and Edwidge Danticat at the Paterson Museum. Part of Paterson Community College's Distinguished Writers Series. For more information, call 201-684-6555.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 6**

**WESTBURY**—"Spring Blues Festival" starring BB King, Bobby "Blue" Bland, and Ruth Brown. 3 and 7 pm at the Westbury Music Fair, Brush Hollow Rd. For more information, call 516-934-0600.

**UPPERMONTCLAIR**—Musical, "Pippin" at Montclair State University's Studio Theatre. For more information, call 201-655-5112.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**—George Jones leads an ensemble performing his music in the Nicholas Music Center, Douglass College. For information, call 908-932-7511.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 9**  
**NEW YORK**—"The Last Street Play" at the Tribeca. For more information, call 212-346-8510.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**  
UPPERMONTCLAIR—Musical, "Pippin" at Montclair State University's Studio Theatre. For more information, call 201-655-5112.

**WESTBURY**—Jay Black & the Americans Annual Spring Concert, 6 pm at the Westbury Music Fair, Brush Hollow Rd. For more information, call 516-934-0600.

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD**—"Spring Into Jazz Brunch," sponsored by National Council of Negro Women, Inc. At the Holiday Inn. For more information, call 908-757-1025.

**NEWARK**—Bob McGrath (Sesame Street) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at Symphony Hall. For more information, call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

## ROSEWOOD SOUNDTRACK FEATURES GOSPEL LEGEND SHIRLEY CAESAR

Sony Classical announces the release of the original motion picture soundtrack recording of director John Singleton's *Rosewood* (SK-6031), with Oscar winner John Williams' original music score featuring two new songs performed by gospel legend Shirley Caesar. The recording will be in stores since March 11.

The movie, *Rosewood*, recounts the true story of a long-hidden American tragedy—the wholesale destruction of the flourishing black town of Rosewood in central Florida in 1923 by angry whites from a false accusation of assault by a white woman.

## TO THE POINT: 'The African Company Presents Richard III' at Rutgers

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.—An African American theater company wants to produce "Richard III," but a white theater producer declares blacks cannot perform Shakespeare, and he is going to kill the production. Today's news or historical fact?

"The African Company Presents Richard III" by Carlyle Brown, directed by Harold Scott, runs April 3 to 20 in the Philip J. Levin Theater, Douglass College Campus in New Brunswick, New Jersey. For information and tickets, call (908) 932-7511.

"In 1821 New York City, while slavery was at its peak in the South, a group of black actors called the African Company, which later included the famous Ira Aldridge, was performing Shakespeare in Greenwich Village to standing room-only houses of both blacks and whites. Amazing isn't it," director Scott said.

The most powerful theater producer of the day moved to shut down the African Company's production of

"Richard III" to prevent competition with his own production of the same play starring Junius Brutus Booth of the famous Booth family.

"But the sentiment of the day also declared that blacks couldn't perform Shakespeare properly. That theater producer would be shocked to learn that 150 years later, Joseph Papp was producing Shakespeare's work using actors of all colors," Mr. Scott said. "As Billy Brown, the black producer of the play says, 'Forget what them fancy-full people think, them high-brow' elitists and say ya Shakespeare like ya want.' And I think Shakespeare would agree."

Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for the Thursday preview, \$14 for Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, and \$16 for Friday and Saturday. Discounts for senior citizens, Rutgers employees and students, and groups are also available.



Ann Johnson (Shantelle Cason) and William Henry Brown (Jamahl Marshall) share a moment in *The African Company Presents Richard III* by Carlyle Brown, directed by Harold Scott. Performances run April 3 to 20 in the Philip J. Levin Theater, Douglass College Campus in New Brunswick, New Jersey. For information and tickets, call (908) 932-7511. Photo: Larry Levitt.

## Imaging America, primetime national news Magazine, to premiere April 1997

Imaging America, a new program offering a unique approach to the news magazine formats will premiere on Tuesdays, April 1, 8, and 15 at 10 p.m. (ET), on PBS (check local listings). The series is produced by PBS flagship station Thirteen WNET in New York.

Each program takes us to one city which serves as a microcosm of issues that resonate across America. Through electronic feature segments, all shot on location, the programs connect the dots between stories to create a revealing portrait of America as it moves toward the next millennium. The series' production style encompasses segments of varying lengths, joined by bridges and interstitial material, in a seamless storytelling process.

"Imaging America will look at news as a process rather than a series of events," says executive producer George Rivera, whose past work for the networks, cable and public television has garnered five Emmy Awards. "Our grassroots approach will emphasize the experiences and insights of ordinary—and extraordinary—people in one city or town to discover how the major news issues and events of the day affect us all."

Cities selected for the April programs are Portland, Oregon; Phoenix,



Left to right: Soledad O'Brien, Randall Pinkston and Jed Duval

Arizona; and Salisbury, Maryland. A roster of network correspondents and local television reporters will contribute to the series. To date, senior contributing correspondents for IMAG-

ING AMERICA include Randall Pinkston of CBS News; Soledad O'Brien of MSNBC's The Site; and Jed Duval of Fox News.

## Entertainment Briefs

### Biggie Smalls album explodes first day



NEW YORK (AP)—From the city where he was raised to the city where he was murdered, fans of rapper The Notorious B.I.G. enthusiastically greeted the release of his album "Life After Death" barely two weeks after his drive-by slaying.

"Death is a commodity, you know?" said Ramsey Jones, a clerk at Tower Records in Greenwich Village, where he couldn't keep the CD on the shelf. "I have to keep stocking it every five minutes."

What was the allure? "It's just the morbid curiosity of having his last album," said Laurie Miller of the Tower Records on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles. The store sold 150 copies of "Life After Death" in a midnight sales promotion.

The Notorious B.I.G., born Christopher Wallace, was murdered in a still-unresolved shooting on March 9 following a Los Angeles music industry party. The 24-year-old had just completed work on his new album for Bad Boy Records.

His posthumous album was rife with violent images and sounds on tracks like "Somebody's Gotta Die,"

"Kick In the Door" and the chilling album closer "You're Nobody (Till Somebody Kills You)."

Industry experts expect "Life After Death" to debut as the nation's No. 1 record, enjoying a sales spike similar to those that followed the murder of rapper Tupac Shakur and the suicide of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain.

It was already No. 1 at the Manhattan Tower Records. At one point, the store sold 105 copies of the double-CD in a single hour, Jones said. Updown at HMV Records, fans of the Brooklyn-born rapper were just as anxious for the eerily-titled album.

"It's flying out of here," said manager George Romero. "This album was going to be big already. After this (the shooting), forget it."

In Boston, not known as a hotbed of rap, retailers reported similar returns. "It's absolutely fantastic," said Jack Gattinele, manager of a Strawberry Records store in downtown Boston. "It's the No. 1 top sale."

Sales of his debut album, "Ready to Die," more than tripled in the week after the rapper's murder. "Ready to Die" sold more than 10,000 copies nationwide after the slaying.

Chaka Zulu, music director of Atlanta radio station WHTA-FM, said, requests for music from the late rapper's album were brisk on Tuesday.

"Definitely requested more today than any other," he said. "The album is bangin'! I knew it was going to be hot."

## MOVIE

### Cuba Gooding Jr. wins trophy

LOS ANGELES AP—To judge from his Oscar acceptance speech, Cuba Gooding Jr. didn't need to do that much acting as the high-spirited football star of "Jerry Maguire."

Gooding drew a partial standing ovation last Monday night while accepting the best supporting actor trophy for his portrayal of the wide receiver who repeatedly asks his faltering agent to "Show me the money!" in "Jerry Maguire."

It has since become a national catch-phrase.

"I know I have a little bit of time, so I'm going to rush and say everybody," he told the crowd Monday night. "If you cut away I won't be mad at you."

The nominees were told at their pre-awards luncheon that they would be limited to 40-second acceptance speeches. Gooding proved there were exceptions.

First up, he thanked his wife, his parents and God.

"I just wanna... here we go," said Gooding as the orchestra began to play the music warning him to wind up his speech.



But Gooding, throwing his arms in the air, kept going, shouting to his co-star, "Tom Cruise, I love you brother, I love you man!"

The music played louder and louder, but Gooding kept going. "Everybody who's involved with this, I love you, I love you," he said, jumping up and down, as the music drew out some of his remarks.

Moments later, Steve Martin appeared on stage and said, "I couldn't tell, did Cuba thank me?"

It was the first nomination for Gooding, who broke his Keanu Reeves as the high-school student in the acclaimed "Boyz n the Hood." He followed with "A Few Good Men" (as a court-martial witness), "Judgment Night," "Lightning Jack," "Losing Isaiah" and "Outbreak."

## Harold Melvin of the Blue Notes dies at 57

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Every generation produces musical leaders who understand the pulse of their neighborhoods and the consciousness of the time. Harold Melvin was that man for 1970s Philadelphia, music historian David Ritz said.

"Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes were one of those seminal groups that seemed to mirror the heartache and the ambitions and the spirit of his own people," Ritz said.

Melvin died last Monday morning at his home in Philadelphia. He was 57.

"Harold is fondly remembered as a congenial, incredibly dedicated performer who was also a renowned lat-finder," said Phil Ashby, head of business affairs at Philadelphia International Records, which once had Melvin and his rhythm and blues group, the Blue Notes, under contract.

The group's many hits included "If You Don't Know Me By Now." Melvin helped launch the career of former Blue Note singer Teddy Pendergrass and coached ex-Blue Notes Billy Paul and Bunny Sigler to success.

In a statement issued by a spokeswoman, Pendergrass said "I am deeply saddened. I have known him for many years with the Blue Notes. Mel was a great coach."

Melvin was first hospitalized in July after he suffered a stroke that left him bedridden and unable to speak. His longtime doctor, Dale Sinker, said the singer and band leader probably

died as a result of a second stroke.

Friends had planned a fund raiser for the stricken musician but postponed it last month so they could line up some big stars.

Melvin was considered a major force behind the Philly Sound, a well-orchestrated form of soul music developed in the 1970s under the auspices of Philadelphia International Records masterminds Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff.

Melvin began his musical career when he formed the Blue Notes as a duo-group group in the 1950s.

Together they had several hits in the 1960s, including "My Hero," "Get Out," and "I Miss You."

But Melvin's greatest success came after he took a rough-around drummer named Teddy Pendergrass and made him the group's lead singer. Between 1971 and 1975 the Blue Notes had four gold albums. They were a constant presence on the music charts, and their singles, including "The Love I Lost" and "If You Don't Know Me By Now," seemed to ooze smoothly from every radio.

Pendergrass left the group in 1975 for a solo career. Afterward, Melvin, who choreographed much of the group's dance steps, was able to work around, primarily in Asia and Europe.

"He was on his way to Japan when he got sick," said his daughter, Trudy Melvin.

The entertainer spent his last days in bed, listening to his old records and the new. His longtime doctor, Dale Sinker, said the singer and band leader probably

## Richard and Valerie Wesley featured at Essex County College

Playwright Richard Wesley and author Valerie Wilson Wesley will be featured at Essex County College on April 7 as part of a special literary presentation produced by the Negro Ensemble Company.

Entitled "Bliss, Mystery and Suspense: Prose to Plays," the program will dramatize several works of fiction by the Wesleys and offer a unique view of the collaborative process involved in the adaptation of literary works for stage and film.

For ticket information call (201) 877-4425 or (212) 582-5860.

## Club Bené

April 18 Morris Day and the Timeflies Frequency	May 10 Eric Benet	May 11 Mother's Day
May 17 Cameo	May 16 Larry Carlton	May 31 The Dells
June 6 Wayman Tisdale	June 7 Nancy Wilson	June 13 Barbieri
	June 13 The Stylistics	

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# Business Calendar

APRIL 17-20

CHICAGO—National Association of Market Developers 45th Annual Conference at the Chicago Swissotel. For more information, call 312-874-3773.

MAY 8-10

EAST BRUNSWICK—New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners National Business Conference. Keynote America and MBEs: Raising the Bar, Breaking the Barriers. Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers. For more information, call 908-586-9607.

MAY 28-29

NEW YORK—Expo '97 Sponsored by New York City Jewish Ministry Purchasing Council, Inc. Theme: Corporate America and MBEs: Raising the Bar, Breaking the Barriers. Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers. For more information, call 212-522-7632.

JUNE 9-10

BALTIMORE—Trade Fair sponsored by the Maryland/DC Minority Supplier Development Council. For more information, call 410-997-7589.

SEPTEMBER

EXPOOpportunity '97. Sponsored by DIVERSITY. For more information, call 215-893-9977.

OCTOBER 12-22

NEW YORK—Conference and Business Opportunity Fair sponsored by the National Minority Supplier Development Council. For more information, call 212-944-2430.

Send or fax any Business event to

City News Business

908-753-1036 or send to

P.O. Box 1774 Plainfield, N.J. 07060

## Person of Color Needed On Federal Reserve Board

By Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr.

Recently, Lawrence Lindsey announced his resignation from the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors and Janet Yellen moved to the Council of Economic Advisors. President Clinton will soon nominate two people for the Board at the Federal

Reserve.

The board of Governors has seven members, each appointed to fourteen year terms. Counting Alan Greenspan's reappointment as Chairman, President Clinton will soon have chosen five of the seven. Next year, the term of Susan Phillips expires, and then he will have chosen six of the seven Governors.

The primary responsibility of the Board is to maintain monetary policy. The board also develops and administers the major federal laws governing consumer credit. So far, the President has not nominated a single person of color to be a member of the Board. With the two nominees he is about to make, that record must change.

The Board of Governors, the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and four other regional Federal Reserve Bank presidents make up the Federal Open Market Committee. This group meets regularly to decide the cost and availability of money and credit in the economy. All of its members are white. Their actions can slow the economy, making it difficult to create jobs. Sometimes, the mere suggestion they may act too slow or speed the economy can send the bond and stock markets reeling.

Like some industrial countries, we have made our central bank independent. We insulate it from open partisan political pressures. The economic policies the Federal Reserve pursues can, in theory, best benefit America without the political fallout of making the tough decisions needed to curb inflation or generate jobs.

The policies they decide have at least as important an influence on the everyday lives of Americans as those we take in Congress to tax or spend. When the Federal Reserve took action, the effect of which was to slow the economy in 1994, employment growth slowed, and manufacturing employment in particular declined. Real people's lives, and Board policies affected real people's lives.

The costs of fighting inflation are not felt uniformly. Some segments of America are still reeling from the deep recession of 1981. Parts of the inner city, Chicago and in the south suburbs, have not yet recovered. Jobs that were lost have not come back.

Until 1994, adult African Americans had to endure double digit unemployment, and still suffer from the unemployment rates of whites, despite tremendous increases in the educational attainment of that work force.

So, it is vital that the Federal Reserve Board have people who are very sensitive to how economic poli-

cies affect different communities, especially its impact on employment. The President must strive to give those communities a voice in setting economic policy. So far, he has not.

Clearly, the Board showed a lack of sensitivity in a vote taken in December. In a six to zero vote, the Board would not allow the voluntary collection of racial information on auto and small business loans by banks. The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act requires similar data. That data has made many studies possible to show discriminatory patterns in home mortgage loans, home improvement loans and mortgage refinancing.

Several studies suggest discrimination may exist in auto and small business loans, but more data would help to resolve those issues. As the Federal Reserve enforces our laws governing consumer credit, we must insist on greater vigilance in fighting discrimination in consumer credit. Unfortunately, even with his appointments on the Board, the recent vote does not give the appearance that it is trying to live up to its responsibility. The President should show where he stands by sending the Board a nominee who clearly comes from a different community, where fighting for jobs and against discrimination are taken more seriously.

We should be looking closely at whom the President nominates for the Board. For me, this will be as important as any Supreme Court justice selection. We can only really live civil rights with economic justice. With welfare reform's promise of "welfare-to-work" before us, decisions made about the economy, between employment and inflation rates will ultimately be as important to the everyday lives of the people in my district as virtually any Supreme Court decision. Fighting discrimination against my constituents in getting auto, home and small business loans is ever bit as important as fighting discrimination elsewhere.

In a January 11 Washington Post article announcing the retirement of Lawrence Lindsey, Clinton administration officials said they "hope to find a woman or a member of a minority group to fill at least one of the current vacancies." I hope to see diversity finally come to the Federal Reserve.

## McDonald's opens in the Newport Centre mall



JERSEY CITY, NJ—Mayor Bret Schumacher of Jersey City, joined (l-r) McDonald's owner/operators Herb and Judith Clay in the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of McDonald's, at Newport Centre Mall in Jersey City, New Jersey. The opening was flanked by Councilmembers, members from the Jersey City business community, McDonald's representatives, students from P.S. 5, family and friends, in celebration of the restaurant's opening. The Clay's donated \$1000.00 to the Adia Resource Foundation for Children. McDonald's kicked-off two weeks of activities at the Mall.

## Police officer quits

continued from page one

Consalvo was covering for him. A flier saying that was produced by the Coalition early on, however, there has been no evidence to that, and the organization itself has received harsh criticism from public officials for being "outside agitators."

"I don't think that this organization has been helpful to the process at all," said M. Morgan Roth, the city's Public Information Officer. "That literature is inflammatory, they don't check their facts, they have done a lot to slow the process of healing in the city. I would ask anyone that has an active interest in the community to stop this, come forward and look at the facts, examine the truth, and look towards rebuilding, rather than being divisive."

The Coalition, however, disagrees, saying it was in fact their efforts that were responsible for Consalvo's resignation. Coalition member Aaron Fischman made note of the 1991 case of Shawn Brown, who was killed by another Police Officer Zane Grey, touching off an even more volatile situation than the current issue. In that case Grey is still a New Brunswick police officer, although the city settled out of court with Potts' family. "Clearly public pressure was the deciding factor in this case," Fischman said. "Although we did not have near the justice we were looking for it is the first step into cracking the armor. Just as on Saturday we were out blanketing the streets with flyers and I believe that was a precipitating event leading to the resignation."

The organization is currently working to take the issue of police brutality further, with a "copwatch" program that will monitor police behavior, and a Citizens Review Board, which they intend to publicize complaints of certain police officers by residents. The group is also asking for a Federal Grand Jury investigation into the case and civil rights charges to be filed against Consalvo.

Bill Irwin, secretary for the Coalition, said that while the resignation is welcome, it is still a "bittersweet victory" because of the November clearing of criminal charges. "There was not done in the criminal proceedings," he said. "We think that (Middlesex County) Prosecutor (Robert) Gluck's handling of the first Grand Jury demonstrated both his corruption and his incompetence, and his unwillingness to pursue justice."

"I think it was a victory for people,

"said Barbara Horne, one of the coordinators of the review board. "It showed that when we do unite we can get something done. It took us a lot more work to do, but it did give us some encouragement to continue to struggle."

Community Activist Salaam Ismail, who was an advisor for the Adams family, agreed with the push for a federal investigation and indictment, and expressed disappointment with the case's outcome. "(Consalvo's) resignation falls way short for not just Sissy Adams, but for the people of New Brunswick, period," he said. "We did case, to come forward and look at the facts, examine the truth, and look towards rebuilding, rather than being divisive."

Ismail said that the way the case was handled speaks to the current climate in New Brunswick's criminal justice system. He cites the current investigation of Prosecutor Gluck's office by the state Attorney General as an example. "The fact that he is now being investigated for his practices, after things likepping cops, say something," he said. "It goes against the grain of his office, and if there is a problem with him now, then his entire performance as prosecutor is in total question."

Prosecutor Gluck will be leaving office in April, which means that a new prosecutor will be appointed, which would almost certainly a Republican. For some of this mostly Democratic county, that bodes ill of the outcome

of cases such as these in the future. However, C. Roy Epps, President of the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick, citing a need for checks and balances in the city's system, said the police would be engaged in. "It seems that both the prosecutor and the mayor wanted to end this because (Consalvo's) testimony might reveal other actions that not just him but the police would be engaged in," he said. "With a new prosecutor some issues that were pursued might be reopened."

He said he has sent letters to the state Attorney General twice to review the curriculum of police officers, in particular in regard to their use of force. In the past six months, he has received no answer, and he warns that this can not be ignored too much longer. "We will continue to have the incidents until we have some outside monitoring," he said.

He also applauded the police review board set up by the Coalition Against Police Brutality, whom the Civic League has worked with in the past, and is optimistic about how effective it can be. "We still exist in a free society where we can express ourselves on matters important to us," he said. "Thank God for that!"

According to Morgan Roth, Consalvo is still eligible to apply for a pension, however he will never be able to receive it until the city agrees to unknown if he will apply for a police officer's position in another city.

### EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

THE OLD BRIDGE TOWNSHIP HOUSING AUTHORITY (OBTHA) will accept WAIT LIST applications to add to its current Wait List APRIL 2, 10 1997 FROM 10:00AM TO 3:00PM at the OBTHA offices at the HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDING, 1 OLD BRIDGE PLAZA, OLD BRIDGE, NEW JERSEY 08857. Existing housing units will be subsidized for eligible applicants in accordance with the Section 8 Voucher program rules and regulations in effect by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Rent is based on 30% of household income.

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Wait List preference (listed in priority order) will be given to those applicants who

1. Homeless;
2. Paying more than 50% of Household income for rent; or
3. Old Bridge residents

## Selecting a tax practitioner

NEWARK—The peak income tax filing period is at hand and the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs and the IRS are warning consumers to beware of unscrupulous tax preparers.

Tax practitioners vary widely in their experience, education, areas of expertise, and cost. Division of Consumer Affairs Director Mark S. Herr and Acting IRS District Director C. John Crawford said:

"Taxpayers are responsible for all information on their personal income tax return, even if they use a paid tax preparer," Crawford said. "If the return is later found to be incorrect, the taxpayer must pay the gov-

ernment any additional tax, interest and penalties. Thousands of New Jerseyans are already paying the price for filing incorrect tax returns."

Although most tax preparers are honest and provide a vital service to taxpayers (about half of all taxpayers use a preparer), a few unscrupulous preparers try to cheat the government and their clients by preparing fraudulent returns that generate refunds to which the clients are not entitled, Crawford said.

"Consumers should take as much care selecting a tax preparer as they would selecting a doctor or lawyer," Herr said.

To help make the best choice, consumers should ask themselves these questions:

How complicated is your tax situation?

Does the practitioner have the education and experience necessary to handle the specific issues of your tax return?

Do you know others who have gone to the preparer and could tell you about the preparer's service?

Will the preparer be there later in the year, or in a year or two to answer questions if an error is found?

The answers to these questions will help consumers make the right choice, Herr said.

To avoid problems with inaccurately prepared returns, taxpayers should also consider the following tips:

Don't sign any forms which are not complete.

Know what you are signing. Read all forms thoroughly.

Make sure you receive a copy of your return. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

Know how much you can afford to pay and ask for specific rates.

Beware of preparers who guarantee "good refunds."

Following is a description of the various types of tax Practitioners in New Jersey:

**Unenrolled Preparer:** Expertise can vary widely depending on individual background. No license is required by either the State or IRS.

**Enrolled Agent:** Has passed an extensive test on tax law preparation administered by the IRS. No college degree is required, however the individual must attend annual tax update classes in order to maintain status. Some enrolled agents are former IRS employees who are not required to take the test if they had at least 5 years of technical experience on the job.

**Public Accountant:** A license is required by the Division of Consumer Affairs' Board of Accountancy in order to practice. Attendance at annual tax update classes required to maintain status.

**Certified Public Accountant:** Has completed all college, testing and experience requirements to qualify as a CPA. A license is required by the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs' Board of Accountancy in order to practice. An annual update course must also be taken in order to maintain status. CPA's normally specialize in one area of the accounting profession. Look for a person who specializes in taxes.

**Attorney:** Has completed all college, testing and experience requirements to qualify as an attorney. Must also take an annual course to maintain status. Attorneys normally specialize in civil or criminal areas.

Consumers who wish to report problems with their tax preparer should call the IRS at (201) 357-4016, or the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs at (201) 504-6200.

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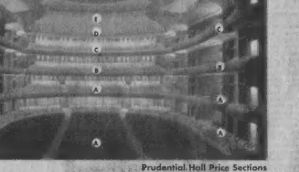
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86	1-3	25	17.14	428.50
87	1-3	25	17.14	428.50
88	1-3	25	17.14	428.50
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95	1-3	25	17.14	428.50
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105	25	21.14	25	10.57	1:1	528.50
106	25	17.14	25	8.57	1:1	428.50
107	25	17.14	25	8.57	1:1	428.50
108	25	17.14	25	8.57	1:1	428.50
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115	25	17.14	25	8.57	1:1	428.50
116	25	17.14	25	8.57	1:1	428.50
117	25	17.14	25	8.57	1:1	428.50
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